

Library

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Borough of Barnstaple

FOR THE YEAR 1956

BOROUGH OF BARNSTAPLE

- Public Health Department -

The Castle,

BARNSTAPLE.

July, 1957.

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and
Councillors of the Borough of Barnstaple.

Mr. Mayor, Miss Howard and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and
Sanitary Administration of the Borough for the year 1956.

Your obedient Servant,

F. J. H. MARTIN,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

M.O.H., Barnstaple.

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LIST OF STAFF

The Staff of the Public Health Department consists of :-

PART-TIME OFFICER :-

F. J. H. MARTIN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

WHOLE-TIME OFFICERS :-

W. RODGERS, M.A.P.H.I. Chief Public Health Inspector.

F. V. PYE, M.A.P.H.I. Additional Public Health Inspector.

MISS E. M. FENNELL Clerk.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	2,396
Population (Registrar-General's Mid-Year Estimate)	...	...	...	...	15,790
Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	...	4,906
Rateable Value as at 1-4-1957	...	...	...	...	£259,341
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, year 1956/57...	...	...	...	...	£1,150

VITAL STATISTICS

		Males	Females	Total
LIVE BIRTHS, Legitimate	...	110	108	218
illegitimate...	...	6	9	15
LIVE BIRTH RATE per 1,000 population	...	...	...	14.75
		Males	Females	Total
STILL BIRTHS, Legitimate	...	2	1)	4
illegitimate	...	-	1)	
STILL BIRTH RATE per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	16.87
		Males	Females	Total
DEATHS	...	113	107	220
DEATH RATE per 1,000 population	...	...	...	13.93

The Table appended shows the comparative figures for Barnstaple, and England and Wales.

The Local Birth and Death Rates are shown corrected by the Area Comparability Factors.

Birth Rate per 1,000 population			Death Rate per 1,000 population	Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births	
	Live Births	Still Births		Deaths under 1 year	Deaths from Diarrhoea & Enteritis under 2 years
Barnstaple	15.34	0.25	12.25	17.16	0
England & Wales	15.7	-	11.7	23.8	-

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR

			<u>Males</u>		<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate ...	...	...	3		1)	4
Illegitimate...	...	...	-		- )
Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	17.16

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS

			<u>Males</u>		<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate ....	...	...	2		1)	3
Illegitimate...	...	...	-		- )
Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	12.87

LOCAL DEATHS OVER 65 YEARS

65 - 69	...	24	85 - 89	...	17
70 - 74	...	34	90 - 94	...	12
75 - 79	...	30	95 plus	...	6
80 - 84	...	40	Total	...	163

POLIOMYELITIS

No cases of Acute Poliomyelitis occurred in the Borough.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

I am obliged to the Barnstaple Meteorological Station at the North Devon Athenaeum for the following information:-

BAROMETER	Highest reading 30.7 ins. on 3rd February. Lowest reading 28.7 ins. on 10th January.	
TEMPERATURE	Maximum 78° on 27th July. Mean for the year 49.1.	Minimum 15° on 2nd February.
RAINFALL	29.51 ins. Average for preceding 10 years 34.09 Number of days on which .01 ins. or more of rain fell, 164.	

TUBERCULOSIS

The following two tables show cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year and the deaths from this disease. Sexes are separated.

Age Periods				NEW CASES					
				PULMONARY		Meninges & C.N.S.		OTHER	
				M	F	M	F	M	F
1 - 4 years	...	...				1			
5 - 9 "	...	...					
10 - 14 "	...	...					
15 - 19 "	...	....		1					
20 - 24 "	...	...		1	2				
25 - 34 "	...	...		2	1				
35 - 44 "	...	...		1	1			1	
45 - 54 "	...	...						1	
55 - 64 "	...	...		1	2				
65 and over	...	...					
TOTAL	...			6	6	1	-	2	-

Age Periods				DEATHS			
				Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
				M	F	M	F
Under 1 year							
1 - 4 years	...	...		-	-	-	-
5 - 9 "	...	...		-	-	-	-
10 - 14 "	...	...		-	-	-	-
15 - 19 "	...	...		-	-	-	-
20 - 24 "	...	...		-	-	-	-
25 - 34 "	...	...		-	-	-	-
35 - 44 "	...	...		-	-	-	-
45 - 54 "	...	...		-	-	-	-
55 - 64 "	...	...		-	-	-	-
65 and over	...	...		-	-	-	-
TOTAL	...			NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS)

Age Groups	DIPHTHERIA	DYSENTERY SONNE	ERYSIPELAS	FOOD POISONING	MEASLES	PNEUMONIA	PUERPERAL PYREXIA	SCARLET FEVER	WHOOPING COUGH
Under 1 year ...					11	1			6
1 + ...					37				7
2 + ...					50				1
3 + ...					53			1	5
4 + ...					50			1	4
5 to 9 years ...					276	1			18
10 to 14 " ...		1		1	6	1			1
15 to 19 " ...					2		1		
20 to 34 " ...				1	2	1	2		
35 to 44 " ...			1				1	1	
45 to 64 " ...		1		1		10			
65 years & over...		1				3			
Age unknown ...									
TOTAL	0 NIL	+ 3	1	* 3	487	17	0 4	# 3	42

0 DIPHTHERIA

Eleventh consecutive year

+ DYSENTERY SONNE

All 3 cases in same household.

* FOOD POISONING

{ 2 cases at North Devon Infirmary from outside the Borough. No causative agent indentified.
1 local case - Salmonella Typhi-murium. Cause unknown

0 PUERPERAL PYREXIA

{ 2 cases at North Devon Infirmary: 1 local, 1 from outside Borough.
2 local cases at "Highfield" Maternity Home.

SCARLET FEVER

2 cases isolated at home; 1 removed to Isolation Hospital.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1956

					M	F
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	...	...	...	...	-	-
Tuberculosis, Other	...	...	...	...	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	...	...	...	...	-	-
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	-	-
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	...	...	...	...	-	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	-	-
Measles	...	...	...	...	-	-
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	...	...	...	...	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	...	...	...	...	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	...	...	...	...	8	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	...	...	...	...	-	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	...	...	...	...	-	3
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	...	...	...	...	14	10
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	1	-
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	1	-
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	...	...	...	...	11	14
Coronary Disease, Angina	...	...	...	...	16	12
Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	4	5
Other Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	29	36
Other Circulatory Disease	...	...	...	...	5	2
Influenza	...	...	...	...	1	2
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	1	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	3	2
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	2	-
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...	...	1	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	...	...	1	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	...	...	...	-	-
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	...	...	...	...	-	1
Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	...	2	1
Other Defined and ill-Defined Diseases	...	...	...	...	8	9
Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	...	...	-	-
All Other Accidents	...	...	...	...	2	1
Suicide	...	...	...	...	2	1
Homicide and Operations of War	...	...	...	...	-	-
All Causes					113	107
TOTAL					220	

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

TUBERCULOSIS

Hawley Sanatorium, situated in the Borough, has 28 beds.

MATERNITY CASES

At the North Devon Infirmary there is a ward of 14 beds, with a fully qualified staff available for cases of doubt or difficulty.

At Bicclescombe Hospital, Ilfracombe, there are 10 beds for Maternity and Ante-natal patients.

There are 4 beds at Braunton Nursing Home.

NOTE: During 1956, 4 Barnstaple Births took place at Bicclescombe Hospital, Ilfracombe.

A General Practitioners' Maternity Unit of 13 beds is situated at "Highfield", Victoria Road, Barnstaple.

ISOLATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There is an Infectious Diseases Isolation Hospital at Bideford, - the Kingsley Hospital - which serves Barnstaple as well as other Local Authorities in North Devon.

SMALL-POX

The Small-Pox Hospital to which any cases of Small-Pox will be sent is Upton Pine Hospital, near Exeter.

Special ambulance transport can be obtained by contacting the isolation Hospital, Whipton, Exeter, Telephone 67158.

DISINFECTION

Extension to the Cattle Market has meant the loss of the Steam Disinfection Chamber previously housed there. By local arrangement the steam disinfection apparatus at Bicclescombe Hospital, Ilfracombe, will be available if required.

GENERAL

The North Devon Infirmary, situated in Barnstaple, serves the area, and provides modern Medical and surgical treatment for the residents of the district.

Wards at the Alexandra Hospital are now set aside as an Annexe to the North Devon Infirmary, and post-operative and recovery patients are transferred there as soon as possible.

There are 101 beds for the chronic sick at the Alexandra Hospital in Barnstaple.

At Braunton Nursing Home there are 4 beds for sick persons.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The main Laboratory is situated at 7 Dix's Field, Exeter, and Dr. B. Moore is the Director. It is completely installed with the necessary equipment for bacteriological examinations of all kinds. Its diagnostic and consultative services are available for all doctors. Bacteriological examinations of drinking water and milk are also carried out.

There is also a Pathological Laboratory at 75 Boutport Street, Barnstaple, with a full-time Pathologist and Technical Staff to meet the needs of the whole North Devon Area. The Blood Bank is also situated at this Laboratory.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

V.D. Clinic. This is held at the North Devon Infirmary Annexe.

Sessions -

Females.	Mondays,	4.00 p.m.	Males.	Mondays,	5.15 p.m.
	Thursdays,	4.30 p.m.		Thursdays,	5.45 p.m.

Chest Clinic is held at the North Devon Infirmary, Glossop Annexe.

Sessions -

Tuesdays	9 a.m. - 1 p.m.	}	Clinic and X-Ray Examinations
	2 p.m. - 4 p.m.		
Thursdays	9 a.m. - 1 p.m.	}	
	2 p.m. - 4 p.m.		
Fridays	9 a.m. - 1 p.m.	}	A.P. refills
	2 p.m. - 4 p.m.		

AMBULANCE SERVICES

Under Section 27 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Local Health Authority (i.e., the Devon County Council), is responsible for the provision of an Ambulance Service, and the Devon Health Committee have arranged for this to be provided through the agency of the St. John Ambulance Association. The Brigade serves the Borough and the district around, and the Head Quarters are in Commercial Road, Barnstaple.

The staff consists of 3 paid members, (full time), 20 men volunteers and 14 volunteer nurses.

The Hospital Car Service, also under the Devon County Council, is available upon application to the Hospital by the Doctor concerned, and the Ambulance Service is empowered to hire cars in urgent cases when the Ambulance is not necessary.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOMES

There are 2 District Nurses, and 3 District Nurse/Midwives practising in the Borough.

HOME HELPS SCHEME

This Scheme was started in March, 1949, and is run by the W.V.S. for the Devon County Council. It covers Barnstaple Borough and Rural Areas, wherever transport is available, and the Scheme is directed by Mrs. M. Hughes.

There are now 54 Home Helps, and 393 cases were dealt with in 1956, as compared with 52 Home Helps and 389 cases in 1955.

Any case recommended by a Doctor, Health Visitor, or District Nurse, will be considered for a Home Help. The Home Helps do any work in the House normally done by the Housewife.

Home Helps are now looking after 103 aged people, who are living by themselves and would otherwise have to go to hospital.

During the year 1956 Home Helps rendered assistance in the homes of 20 maternity cases.

12 blind people also received assistance from the Service.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNIZATION

Immunization carried out during 1956 was as follows:-

Number of children who received a course of				
Primary Injections	...	...	...	304
Number of children who received a Reinforcing				
Injection	...	...	...	240

NOTE: FOR THE ELEVENTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR NO CASES OF DIPHTHERIA WERE NOTIFIED.

VACCINATION

Number of children vaccinated against Small-pox = 310:-

Under 1 year	1 yr.	2-4 yrs.	5 - 14 yrs.	15 yrs. and over
103	71	10	8	118

REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Public Health Department,
The Castle,
BARNSTAPLE.

July, 1957.

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and
Councillors of the Borough of Barnstaple.

Mr. Mayor, Miss Howard & Gentlemen,

I beg to submit a Report on the work of your Public Health Inspectors,
for the Year 1956.

There were no changes in the personnel of the Department in 1956.

During the year, the designation 'Sanitary Inspector' was changed by statute to the more euphonious and appropriate one of 'Public Health Inspector'. A title that has done duty for over 80 years is not easily replaced, even by those who bear it, but it is generally felt that the new designation is more indicative of the duties performed than the old, which had, perhaps, unfortunate associations in most minds in that it gave an impression of only one aspect of the work of the Public Health Department.

The main features of the year's work were another large increase in the work done in the Public Abattoir, the many visits made to enforce the new Food Regulations, and continued progress in the demolition or closing of unfit houses.

The main duties of the Department are referred to in the following:-

(i) HOUSING ACTS & PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS:

595 premises were visited, and 590 re-visits made as a result of action taken.

The first areas declared as Clearance Areas under the new Housing "drive" were the subject of a Public Inquiry held on June 12th, and as a result of this, approval was given to the acquisition and demolition of 65 houses. By the end of the year all 33 houses in Corser Street were demolished, and contracts had been placed for the demolition of 32 other houses. Thus, the year saw the first fruits of a long-planned improvement in housing conditions in the Borough.

In addition, 45 unfit houses were closed, largely by informal action.

The total number of houses built during the year was:-

By Local Authority	...	...	86
By Private Enterprise	...	...	20

(ii) REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL:

The 3 Refuse Collection Vehicles each continued to average 100 miles per week; for all the decrease in population this service is growing as new housing estates are developed with their more widespread layout, and their increasing distance from the point of refuse disposal.

Refuse Disposal continued at the Seven Brethren's Bank refuse tip, and was alleged to be the chief cause of a serious fly infestation in the immediate neighbourhood. As a result of this, and the admittedly unreliable system of covering tipped refuse, mechanical equipment was provided in August. This is a diesel engine Bulldozer, capable of levelling and consolidating refuse, spreading covering material over the tip face and surface, and also adapted to excavate soil if required. The improvement in conditions was very marked, and has continued.

(iii) SALVAGE:

The year under review was probably the poorest since salvaging of waste paper was begun. There was virtually no market for salvage, and the few collections made by our merchants were to fulfil special export orders.

The following table shows the quantities of materials salvaged, together with their value:

	Tons cwts. qrs. lbs.				£	s.	d.
Mixed Waste Paper ...	10	11	0	0	42.	10.	6.
Magazines & Newspapers		11	0	0	2.	4.	0.
Cardboard ...		15	2	0	3.	2.	0.
	11	17	2	0	47.	16.	6.

Since 1939 1,925 tons of Salvage have been collected, value £13,210.

(iv) MEAT INSPECTION:

This was another year of record-breaking; the previous year's figures - the highest ever recorded - were easily surpassed, this year's figures averaging over 1,000 animals per week. Again, a great number of visits and consistent over-time were needed to ensure a 100% inspection. This entailed visits on every Sunday and most Public Holidays.

The one Private Slaughterhouse licensed was used on a very small scale.

53,152 Food Animals were slaughtered and inspected as follows:-

	<u>Public</u> <u>Abattoir</u>	<u>Private</u> <u>Slaughterhouse</u>	<u>Total</u>
Beasts	3,318	7	3,325
Calves	2,035	-	2,035
Sheep	36,177	27	36,204
Pigs	11,588	-	11,588
	<u>53,118</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>53,152</u>

In addition, the following were brought in dressed for inspection:-

Beasts, 2. Calves, 1. Sheep, 4. Pigs, 1. Total: 8.

	<u>Tons</u>	<u>cwts.</u>	<u>qrs.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>
Meat condemned at Public Abattoir	47	18	1	17
Meat condemned at Private Slaughterhouse	-	-	-	14

Whole carcasses condemned include the following:-

Beasts: 111. Calves: 50. Sheep: 444. Pigs: 28. Total: 633

19 Licences were issued to Slaughtermen.

The following table is in the form required by the Ministry, for Annual Reports:-

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	2,584	734	2,035	36,177	11,588	Nil
" brought in dressed..	1	1	1	4	1	Nil
Number inspected	2,585	735	2,036	36,181	11,589	Nil
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS & CYSTICERCI</u>						
Whole Carcases condemned ...	11	63	49	444	19	Nil
Carcases of which some part. or organ was condemned....	548	356	3	1,585	73	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci	21.6%	57.0%	2.5%	5.6%	0.79%	Nil
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	11	26	1	Nil	9	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	65	100	1	Nil	390	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	2.9%	17.1%	0.09%	Nil	3.4%	Nil
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	21	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	21	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemnnd. ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

There was an increase, 17.1% against 13.3% in the percentage of cows found to be tuberculous in any degree. This may be attributed to the large number of "re-actors" located and sent for slaughter by the Ministry's veterinary inspectors, this in turn being indicative of the campaign to produce herds free from tuberculosis.

All cases of Generalised Tuberculosis were again notified to the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries & Food, whose veterinary inspectors visit the herds in question and test for other affected animals.

Examinations for *Cysticercus Bovis* (the embryo form of a tapeworm infesting man) continued, and 24 cases were found - an increase of 6 on the previous year. The incidence of infection was .72% against .54% in 1955.

Much valuable assistance is given by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Veterinary Laboratory at Starcross, and the Public Health Laboratory at Exeter, in examination of specimens and confirmation of the rarer diseases.

(v) FOOD:

(a) The Devon County Council is the Food & Drugs Authority, but the sampling provisions are exercised locally in cases of emergency or special interest. The sample mentioned below was of this latter type.

<u>Article</u>	<u>Result of Examination</u>
Bread - alleged to contain particles of tobacco.	Public Analyst's report - inconclusive.

(b) The following is a List of Food Premises* in the Borough:-

Bread & Cakes	16
Cafes & Restaurants	23
Cooked Meats, etc.	3
Dairies	18
Fish(Wet)	6
Fish & Chips	9
Fruit & Vegetables	24
Groceries & General)	
Provisions)	66
Ice Cream	76
Meat	31
Mineral Water Factories	2
Public Houses & Hotels	46
Sweets & Confectionery	34
Wines & Spirits (Off Licences)	4

*N.B. Where, as often applies, a food shop deals in more than one of the above commodities, the premises have been classified according to the predominating type of business.

(c) 124 premises are registered under Sec.16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955, - 48 for the preparation of processed foods, and 76 for the sale of Ice Cream.

(d) 128 inspections of registered food premises were carried out during the year, and 2,500 visits were made to all types of food premises. The Food Regulations of 1955-6 came into force during the year, and many extra visits were made to ensure their enforcement.

The general standard of cleanliness and food hygiene is very good: only one food preparing premises was (partly by nature of its construction) markedly unsatisfactory, and after several warnings this was discontinued, without statutory action.

(e) 25 samples of Ice Cream were taken for bacteriological examination during the year. It will be noted from the following table that every one of these attained Grade I.

Producer	Grade I	Grade II	Grade III	Grade IV	Total
No. 1	9	-	-	-	9
2	8	-	-	-	8
3	8	-	-	-	8
	25	-	-	-	25

Ice Cream is one of those manufactured foods which by its very nature, could be a vehicle of food poisoning or other disease if infected, and in view of the enormous quantities now consumed it is satisfying to know that it is prepared and stored hygienically.

(f) As in previous years, several visits were made to meetings of catering associations, grocers' federations, guilds, etc. at their invitation, to talk on food hygiene.

Food Inspected and surrendered as unfit for human consumption was as listed below:-

<u>TINNED FOOD</u>						
Coffee	...	...	...	...	1	tin(s)
Cream	...	...	...	...	2	"
Fish	...	...	...	...	111	"
Fruit	...	...	...	...	986	"
Fruit Juice	...	...	...	...	26	"
Irish Stew	...	...	...	...	125	"
Meat	...	...	...	...	547	"
Milk	...	...	...	...	102	"
Milk Pudding	...	...	...	...	1	"
Preserves	...	...	...	...	11	"
Soups	...	...	...	...	557	"
Vegetables	...	...	...	...	302	"
					<u>2,771</u>	"

Weight - 3,592 lbs. 2 oz.

<u>OTHER FOOD</u>					<u>lbs.</u>	<u>Ozs.</u>
Almonds (shelled)	...	...	...	...	2	2
Bacon	...	...	...	...	35	6
Beef (from Butchers' Shops)	...	...	...	...	17	0
Butter	...	...	...	...	2	4
Cake	...	...	...	...	18	0
Cheese	...	...	...	...	82	4
Chitterlings	...	...	...	...	11	4
Dried Fruit	...	...	...	...	2	0
Fish	...	...	...	...	98	0
Fish Cakes	...	...	...	...	3	8
Forcemeat Stuffing (19 pkts.)	...	...	...	...	4	12
Fruit Jelly (2 jars)	...	...	...	...	-	8
Fruit Sauce (6 tubes)	...	...	...	...	1	8
Grapes	...	...	...	...	18	8
Honey (1 jar)	...	...	...	...	-	10½
Jam	...	...	...	...	7	0
Lard	...	...	...	...	-	8
Macaroni	...	...	...	...	2	12
Margarine	...	...	...	...	1	0
Meat (opened tins)	...	...	...	...	11	0
Rolled Oats	...	...	...	...	25	0
Sandwich Spread (36 jars)	...	...	...	...	9	0
Sausages	...	...	...	...	83	8
Sponge Mixture	...	...	...	...	-	12
Tea	...	...	...	...	1	4
Tomato Puree (1 tube)	...	...	...	...	-	8
					<u>439 lbs</u>	<u>14½ oz.</u>

(vi) MILK AND DAIRIES:

Under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, the Borough Public Health Department is responsible for the following administrative duties:-

- (a) The Sanitary conditions of the Distributive trade other than Producer-Retailers.
- (b) Control by Licence of the sale of milk bearing special Designations.
- (c) Provision with regard to the infection of milk from human infectious diseases and from certain diseases of bovine origin.
- (d) The prevention of the sale of milk from animals infected by Tuberculosis and other specified conditions.

The number of Dairies in the Borough registered under the Milk & Dairies Regulations 1949-1954 is 18.

The following Licences were issued to sell milk under special Designations:-

Tuberculin Tested (Raw)	...	5
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)		7
Pasteurised	... ..	3
Channel Island (Pasteurised)	...	1

21 samples of milk were submitted to the County Public Health Laboratory for the detection of tubercle. 19 were Negative, and 2 were inconclusive, (Guinea-pigs died of intercurrent disease).

It is to be the national policy eventually to ensure that all milk is "Designated" or "Heat Treated". Meanwhile, our best local contribution to a "safe" milk supply is the regular sampling from all Producers, for biological examinations, i.e. to ensure that milk is free from Tuberculosis.

(vii) WATER SUPPLIES:

The mains water supply for the Borough of Barnstaple is satisfactory, both as regards quantity and quality.

Bacteriological examinations are carried out weekly, and the water is chlorinated.

2 samples were also taken during the peak summer season, of water from the Municipal Swimming Pool; one sample being taken from the deep end and one from the shallow end. Both were reported by the County Bacteriologist as very satisfactory and were in fact, of the equivalent to the highest standard for drinking water.

(viii) RODENT DISINFESTATION -

The services of a part-time operator were again applied to this work, and it is positively apparent that rodent infestations are fewer each year.

The sewerage system was again treated during the year, and even here it is found that certain areas are virtually free from infestation.

(ix) INFECTIOUS DISEASES & DISINFECTION:

Investigations made concerning Infectious
Disease Cases and Contacts:-

Poliomyelitis ("Suspects")	...	...	...	2
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	3
Food Poisoning (including "suspects")	...	...	...	3
Dysentery Sonne	...	...	...	3
				<hr/>
				11
				<hr/>

Disinfections carried out:-

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	2
Cancer	...	...	...	2
				<hr/>
				4
				<hr/>

(x) FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948:

The following tables show inspections, etc., carried out during 1956:-

1. INSPECTIONS

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
1. Non-Mechanical Factories	24	5	-	-
2. Mechanical Factories	135	205	-	-
3. Other premises (excluding Out Workers premises)	7	-	-	-
Total	166	210	Nil	Nil

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

	Number of Cases in which Defects were found				Number of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	8	4	-	1	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	1	-	-	1	-
Inadequate ventilation	2	-	-	1	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences-					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	1	-	3	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences (not relating to Home Work)	1	-	1	-	-
total	15	5	1	6	Nil

Nature of work	O U T W O R K					
	Section 110				Section 111	
	Number of Out-workers in August 1956	Number of Cases of Default in sending lists	Number of Prosecutions for failure to send lists	Number of instances work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel - Making	102	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Lace Curtains and Nets	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	107	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(xi) PETROLEUM AND EXPLOSIVE ACT:

The following storage licences were granted under the Petroleum Act, 1928:-

Petroleum Spirit	...	...	...	...	63
Petroleum Spirit and Carbide of Calcium	...	...	...	...	2
Petroleum Spirit and Crude Benzol	...	...	...	...	1
Petroleum Sprit and Petroleum Mixtures	..	...	...	...	6
Petroleum Mixtures	...	...	...	...	6
Petroleum Mixtures and Carbide of Calcium	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/> 79 <hr/>

The quantities stored are as follows:-

Petroleum Spirit	....	...	...	232,616 gallons
Carbide of Calcium	...	...	...	816 lbs.
Crude Benzol	...	...	...	3,800 gallons
Petroleum Mixtures	...	...	...	1,372 gallons

The amount of fees received by the Local Authority for the above Licences was £56. 5. 0.

The number of premises registered for the storage of Mixed Explosives was 41.

THE FOLLOWING IS A DETAILED LIST OF PUBLIC HEALTH
OPERATIONS CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR 1956

	Public Health Act	Food & Drugs Act	Milk & Dairies and Meat Regs.	Factories Acts	Housing Acts
New sets of house drains laid	2	-	-	-	-
Drains repaired	17	-	-	-	-
Drains cleared	19	-	-	-	-
New soil pipes fixed ...	5	1	-	-	-
Fresh air inlets provided ...	-	1	-	-	-
New vent pipes provided ...	5	1	-	-	-
New inspection chambers built	9	2	-	1	-
New gullies fixed	6	3	-	-	-
Additional W.C.'s provided...	-	2	-	2	-
W.C.'s repaired	3	-	-	-	-
New W.C. pans provided ...	18	1	-	1	-
New flushing cisterns provided	5	-	-	1	-
Flushing cisterns repaired ..	2	-	-	-	-
Floors repaired or renewed ..	-	1	-	-	-
Kitchen Stoves repaired	5	-	-	-	-
Staircases repaired or renewed	1	-	-	-	-
Windows repaired	3	-	-	-	-
Houses demolished	-	-	-	-	33
Houses closed	-	-	-	-	45
Dampness remedied... ..	2	-	-	-	-
Rainpipes repaired.. ...	1	1	-	-	-
Roofs repaired or renewed....	5	-	-	-	-
Guttering repaired or renewed	2	-	-	-	-

Table continued on Page 24.

Detailed List of Public Health Operations carried out during the year 1956 (continued).

	Public Health Act	Food & Drugs Act	Milk & Dairies and Meat Regs.	Factories Acts	Housing Acts
Yards repaired	1	-	-	-	-
Plaster repaired - external..	2	-	-	-	-
" " - internal..	2	1	-	-	-
Rooms cleansed	-	7	-	-	-
Smoke and water tests applied to drains	8	-	-	-	-
Premises where nuisances abated	76	-	-	-	-
Vermin and other pests eradicated	32	-	-	-	-
New windows fixed	1	1	-	-	-
Ventilation improved ...	-	3	-	-	-
Ceilings repaired ...	1	1	-	-	-
Walls repaired	2	2	-	-	-
Washing facilities provided..	-	9	-	-	-
Food protected from contamination	-	31	-	-	-
Vehicles repaired or renewed.	-	1	-	-	-
Means of escape in case of fire improved	-	-	-	2	-
New Sinks provided ...	-	5	-	-	-
Sink Waste pipes fixed ...	2	-	-	-	-
Wash-houses provided ...	1	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	-	10	-	-	-

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, &c.

Visits made	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,550
Houses inspected, Public Health Act ..				...	...	...	338
Re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	528
Houses inspected, Housing Acts			...	...	...	...	257
Re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
Visits to slaughterhouses	....		...	...	...	...	1,886
Butchers' shops		...	...	...	...	...	57
Food preparing premises	...		...	...	...	...	97
Other food shops		...	...	...	...	...	332
Bakehouses		...	...	...	...	...	26
Milk Vehicles (including Sampling)	...		...	...	...	...	14
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Ice Cream premises..		...	...	...	...	...	57
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	210
Offensive Trade Premises	...		...	...	...	...	1
Outworkers' premises		...	...	...	...	...	48
Rodent control	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Refuse tip	...	...	...	...	...	...	388
Camping sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Petroleum storage ..		...	...	...	...	...	14
Infectious Disease Investigation			...	...	...	...	11
Miscellaneous letters written			...	...	...	...	125
Statutory Notices, Public Health Act..				...	...	...	-
Informal Notices, Public Health Act...				...	...	...	57
" " (Secondary) Public Health Act				...	...		30
Statutory Notices, Housing Acts			...	...	...	...	1
Verbal Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	130

I wish to thank all members and officials of the Corporation for their courtesy and co-operation during the year, also all who have worked on the various duties of the Department.

I would wish, once more, to thank especially Mr. Pye and Miss Fennell for their unfailing service at all times. The duties of the Public Health Department often call for work beyond normal hours, and this is given unstintedly.

Your obedient servant,

W. RODGERS,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

